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17. ABSTRACT (MAX. 250 WORDS)

Provides summary figures on present and projected enrollments, the number of additional students over those enrolled in the fall of 1961 who might be accommodated with the present facilities, the possible increase over 1961 fall enrollment when assured facilities are completed, the maximum desired increase over 1961 fall enrollment if necessary funds can be secured, and the probable increase in capacity over 1961 fall enrollment by 1965.

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Joint Staff Study #6

PROJECTED CAPACITY OF THE PRIVATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN THE STATE OF WISCONSIN

The Coordinating Committee for Higher Education is charged with the responsibility of continuously studying the needs of the people of the state for publicly-supported higher education and with making any necessary recommendations to the Governor and the legislature. In order for the public institutions to plan intelligently for future growth it is necessary to have some knowledge of the plans and hopes of the private institutions of higher education.

Four years ago the private institutions were asked to cooperate in a study which would indicate their hopes and plans for expansion in the years ahead. This study was published as Joint Staff Study 20, in June, 1958. At that time, the private institutions indicated that they would probably be able to expand to about 25% by 1960, approximately 50% by 1965 and about 85% by 1970.

Since the above study was completed collegiate enrollments in Wisconsin have grown much more rapidly than was anticipated at that time. It now appears that collegiate enrollments in Wisconsin will double sometime within the next 10 to 15 years. In view of the increase in the rate of college going and in view of the fact that the collegiate institutions may have changed their plans over the last four years, it was felt advisable to conduct another study comparable to the one of four years ago.

A questionnaire was designed to determine how many additional students could be accommodated in their present facilities and to determine the plans which the private institutions might have for expansion. In the latter category

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the institutions were asked to differentiate between future plans for which financing was assured and the hopes for future expansion for which financing was not yet assured. The questionnaire used this time differs from the one of four years ago in that academic facilities and dormitory facilities were considered separately.

The questionnaire (copy of which is attached) was distributed to all of the private institutions of the state. At this time, returns have been received from almost 85% of the institutions, representing somewhat over 85% of the total enrollments of the private institutions in Wisconsin.

Not all of the questionnaires were completely filled out. For example, certain of the institutions felt that they could not properly estimate maximum student capacities for various future dates because of the uncertainty of their ability to secure the necessary financing. In such instances our tabulations have assumed that the necessary financing would be secured in order to reach the figure which the institution indicated should be the maximum size. It is recognized that this introduces some errors and that the figures presented may be too optomistic. However, if this optomistic interpretation of the data is not fulfilled in all instances, the overall estimates may still be reasonable, because of the development of new private institutions in the state.

Carthage College, Kenosha, Wisconsin, and Mt. Senario College, Ladysmith, Wisconsin, have just opened their doors this summer and will accept their first freshman class this fall. There are several other possibilities for new institutions in Wisconsin. Some of these proposals probably will develop into actual institutions within the time span indicated.

Although there can be no certainty about any estimation of future activity, it is believed that the figures given below are as sound overall predictions regarding the future enrollments of the private colleges of Wisconsin as it is possible to secure at this time.

TABLE I

PRESENT, ASSURED, AND HOPED-FOR FACILITIES OF THE PRIVATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION IN WISCONSIN

	Number	Percent
1. Additional students over those enrolled in the fall of 1961 which might be accommodated with the present facilities.		
A. Academic	3,647	15
B. Dormitory	642	8
2. Increase over 1961 fall enrollment possible when assured facilities are completed.		
A. Academic	5,782	23
B. Dormitory	2,429	30
3. Maximum increase over 1961 fall enrollment desired if necessary funds can be secured.	17,589	70
4. Probable increase in capacity over 1961 fall enrollment by 1965.		
1965	5,155	20
1970	10,511	42
1975	16,779	67

Additional students over those enrolled in the fall of 1961 which might be accommodated with the present facilities.

Several factors must be taken into consideration in the interpretation of the above figures.

A. Many of the private institutions are highly specialized institutions. A considerable proportion of the apparent excess capacity of the private institutions in the fall of 1961 was found in these highly specialized institutions. The most generally needed type of educational opportunities are those found in the co-educational, liberal arts, and teacher-training types of institutions. In the private institutions of the above type, the academic facilities might have accommodated about 1,000 additional students last fall and the dormitories could have housed about 300 more associated with this type of institution. Even these figures are somewhat misleading since a considerable part of both the excess academic facilities and the excess dormitory facilities are found in one institution which operates both a secondary school and a college. This school has indicated that they might be willing to use both their academic and dormitory facilities for collegiate students rather than for secondary students if the demand were placed upon them. Actually these spaces are not now unused, rather they are being used for secondary students.

B. Quite properly each of the private institutions sets its own entrance and retention standards. Undoubtedly, most of the institutions could have filled the institutions to capacity had they been willing to make compromises with their admission and retention standards.

Certainly each institution should establish its own standards and should adhere to the standards it has established. However, so long as this is true it is unrealistic to believe that students will be so distributed as to fill every vacancy in every private institution.

In view of the above factors it is reasonable to assume that any tabulation of this kind will indicate some vacant spaces, since it will be impossible completely to match the needs and desires of the student with the programs and desires of the institutions.

Increase over 1961 fall enrollment possible when assured facilities are completed

The figures given in Table I indicate that the private institutions will expand by some 20% so far as academic facilities are concerned and by some 30% so far as dormitory facilities are concerned in the near future. It should be remembered that these estimations of expansion are estimations of expansion over the 1961 actual enrollments. As was indicated above, it probably will never be possible to fill all of the spaces in all of the institutions. It is encouraging to note that over half of the estimates in the academic facilities and in the dormitory facilities are planned for the liberal arts colleges where the present needs are the greatest and that a considerable portion of this expansion is planned in co-educational institutions.

Maximum increase over 1961 fall enrollment desired if necessary funds can be secured

The figures given in Table I indicate a maximum expansion of facilities of some 70% over 1961 fall enrollments. A breakdown between the liberal arts institutions and the more highly specialized institutions indicates a slightly higher expansion figure for the specialized institutions. The liberal arts

institutions believe their maximum size should only be some 35% greater than the 1961 enrollments.

Since it seems probable that Wisconsin's collegiate population will double some time in the next 10-15 years and continue to grow thereafter, it is apparent that the proportion of the total load which must be carried by the public institutions will continue to grow. This will represent a continuation of the trend of the last several years.

Probable increase in capacity over 1961 fall enrollment by 1965.

The private colleges, as a group, have estimated that their capacity in 1965 will be about 20% more than the 1961 fall enrollment. In this connection it should be remembered that the 1961 fall enrollment was apparently some 15% under the capacity. Hence, there is only an additional 5% increase in capacity expected by 1965. The increase in enrollments in private colleges almost certainly will be less than the possible 20% increase over 1961 enrollments. Probably the enrollment increase will be more than the 5% increase in total capacity expected for the fall of 1965 over the fall of 1961.

By 1970 the private colleges expect to increase their capacity by about 40% over their actual enrollments in 1961. This represents an increase of actual capacity of more than 25% over their capacity in 1961.

In 1975 they expect to increase their capacity by 67% over the actual enrollments of 1961. This represents about a 50% increase over the capacity of 1961.

SUMMATION

A. It is encouraging to note that the private institutions in Wisconsin expect to increase their size over the next decade. However, the present indications are that the private institutions will be unable to grow as rapidly as do total collegiate enrollments. This will place a heavier demand on the public institutions.

B. The estimated excess capacity of the private institutions in the fall of 1961 represents about 4% of the total college enrollments of both public and private institutions in Wisconsin in the fall of 1961. For a variety of reasons indicated above, it will never be feasible to fill every vacancy in every private institution even though there are students who have failed to gain entrance to the private institution of their choice.

C. The public institutions must be prepared to assume a larger share of the total collegiate enrollments in the future. If the private institutions are able to expand by 50% during the time span in which total collegiate enrollments increase by 100% then the public institutions will need to increase by 125%. If we assume that in Wisconsin a doubling of the collegiate enrollment of 1961 occurs in 1975 and if we assume that the increases hoped for by the private institutions will occur, then the distribution of enrollments between public and private institutions in 1975 will be 80% in public institutions and 20% in private institutions.

JOINT STAFF

COORDINATING COMMITTEE FOR HIGHER EDUCATION
1961

Collegiate Day Enrollment Projections for _____
(Name of College)

(If your institution has an extensive evening or non-collegiate program, you may wish to give separate figures in appropriate places for such programs.)

1. (a) How many students were enrolled in the fall 1961-62 school year? _____

   (b) How many students were housed in dormitories either owned or managed by your institution?

2. What is the maximum number of students which your present facilities could serve?
   academic _____
   dormitory _____

3. (a) What will be your maximum capacity when the facilities are completed for which financing is now assured?
   academic _____
   dormitory _____

   (b) When do you expect the completion of such facilities? _____

   (If you have two or more completion dates with each resulting in an increase in capacity, so indicate.)

4. (a) Assuming that the necessary financing could be secured, what do you feel should be the maximum size of your institution? _____

   (If you would be willing to see your institution increase indefinitely, so state.)

   (b) How many additional square feet of floor space would you need in buildings to serve the number of students indicated above?
   academic _____
   dormitory _____

5. If your institution would desire to expand enrollments beyond those permitted by your present resources, what is your estimate of your probable maximum student capacity in 1965?_____

(Your estimates of student capacity will, of course, be based on your estimates of the funds which may be available to your institution for facilities and operations.)

1970?_____

1975?_____